

61-83047a

27 OCT 1961

Directorate of Personnel

**MEMORANDUM FOR:** Executive Secretary  
National Security Council

**SUBJECT:** Recommendation for Award of the  
National Security Medal to  
Dr. Hans A. Bethe

1. Enclosed is recommendation for award of the National Security Medal to Dr. Hans A. Bethe sent to the Director of Central Intelligence with your memorandum of 25 October 1961. This recommendation has been reviewed and approved by the Honor and Merit Awards Board of this Agency which suggests a modification in the language of the proposed citation. The report of the Board has received my approval and is also enclosed.

2. If the President agrees with this recommendation, please let me know when the medal and certificate will be needed for presentation to Dr. Bethe, so that we may have the necessary engraving and lettering accomplished.

Sincerely

C. P. Cabell  
General, USAF  
Acting Director

**Enclosures:**

Report of Honor and Merit Awards  
Board, 30 October 1961

**Distribution**

Orig & 1 - Addressee  
2 - A/DCI

Recommendation for Award for  
Professor H. A. Bethe, 27 June 1961,  
with accompanying endorsements and  
recommendations.

1 - Chairman HMAB  
1 - Recorder HMAB

*ER*  
*at*  
*DCI*  
(This memorandum may be downgraded to unclassified when the  
enclosures are detached.)

**REPORT OF HONOR AND MERIT AWARDS BOARD**  
 (CONVENED PURSUANT TO REGULATIONS R 20-635 AND FR 20-635)

DATE

**30 October 1961**

The Honor and Merit Awards Board having considered a recommendation that:

NAME: <b>Dr. Bethe</b>	(Last) <b>Hans</b>	(First) <b>A.</b>	(Middle)	POSITION TITLE <b>Chairman, Foreign Weapon Evaluation Group</b>
PRESENT GRADE	OFFICE ASSIGNED TO <b>Dept of the Air Force</b>			STATION <b>Washington 25, D. C.</b>

BE AWARDED:

**National Security Medal** FOR HEROIC ACTION, ON FOR MERITORIOUS ACHIEVEMENT OR SERVICE DURING THE PERIOD **3 December 1953 - 16 June 1961** APPROVES THE RECOMMENDATION  DISAPPROVES THE RECOMMENDATION APPROVES, BUT IN LIEU THEREOF, RECOMMENDS THE AWARD OF:

CITATION

Dr. Hans A. Bethe is awarded the National Security Medal for distinguished service in the field of intelligence relating to the national security from 3 December 1953 to 16 June 1961. Serving in a position of great responsibility, he furnished outstanding scientific guidance and consultation to civilian and military agencies engaged in an important intelligence activity. The contribution made by Dr. Bethe is in keeping with the finest tradition of service to the United States and has added immeasurably to the security of our Nation.

REASONS FOR DISAPPROVAL OF RECOMMENDED AWARD

APPROVED

*C. P. Cabell*  
*acting*  
 DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

7 NOV 1961

DATE

SIGNATURE

*for* /s/ Harry W. Little, Jr.  
 TYPED NAME OF CHAIRMAN, HONOR AND MERIT AWARDS BOARD  
**EMMETT D. ECHOLS**

SIGNATURE

TYPED NAME OF RECORDER

**ROBERT M. GAYNOR**